

Application No. 10/717,498  
February 26, 2004  
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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph at page 1, lines 3-5 of the application as follows:

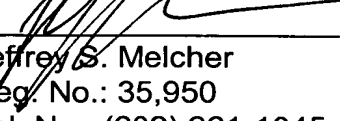
This application claims priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-343222, filed on November 27, 2002, the complete disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

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Entry of this amendment and an early action on the merits are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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